

yes!

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Resident Name: Elaine Ann

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Keep road closed. Preserve air islands no more concrete.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Chris Ackman

Phone:

Address:

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I use this area a lot - Diving, snorkeling, biking & used to kayak into the aquarium & fishbowl. I always saw lots of human feces, toilet paper, etc. (1) the area needs fixed - brought back to its natural state, & (2) if people & kayakers are going to be allowed back in the area needs real ~~beach~~ trails, restrooms, etc etc etc.

so please leave the area closed a year or two ^{more} so the area comes back more to nature, real studies of what's what can be completed & the right facilities can be built to protect the area forever.

Chris Ackman

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Martin Anderson

Phone:

Address:

1111 N. Kalia Rd.

Email Address:

martin.anderson@hawaii.gov

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I support the Additional Closure for 2
years at Ahiki-Kinau Please extend the
Restrictions

Mart. A.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

Lauraine Avers-Briel

04/27/2010 01:17 PM

To Randall.w.kennedy@hawaii.gov,
Emma.Yuen@hawaii.gov

cc

Subj Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve
ect

I understand there will be a public hearing regarding a proposed alteration of the closure of the Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve. Please add my thoughts to the testimony being considered.

It is astonishingly presumptuous of visitors, tourists, resident humans to undo the efforts of so many to protect a critical area habitat for what remains of the native wildlife on Maui.

"Preserve in perpetuity" should not be re-interrupted with recess periods for people to recreate in a wildlife sanctuary. All well meaning suggestions that volunteers could assist in the education and protection of the wildlife will not be interpreted by the wildlife as anything other than another invasion. Where are the resources to come from to ensure enforcement of guidelines of the "volunteers"?

I am oppose to to the proposed access amendment to the Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve and I hope that it remains closed beyond July.

It is a privilege to share the delicate ecosystem of this exceptional place with the native wildlife and plants. It is a fact that we humans impede the native habitats survival.

Mahalos for your efforts,

Lauraine Ayers-Briel



----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:02 PM -----

04/28/2010 06:56 PM

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

cc

Subj Re: Continued closure of Ahihi Kinau NARS
ect

Please consider a controlled opening of the NARS area that includes the paths to the popular snorkeling areas known as Fishbowl and Aquarium.

I have been actively involved in the recent past in education of the public at the NARS and am very aware of the need for protection of parts of the reserve. It was my understanding that paths would be established and signs posted during the current closure so the area could be safely opened after two years. These paths should be immediately created as was promised so controlled groups can enjoy the area. If paths with simple signs are established, my experience in the area leads me to believe the hikers and snorkelers will use the paths and not wander onto the cultural sites nor the sensitive pools.

I know of plenty of good volunteers that can be trained to lead groups if needed.

Thank you for passing on my thoughts.

Sincerely,

Florence Bahr

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School Cafeteria

Resident Name:

ROBERT BAKMAZ

Phone:

Address:

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I AM AGAINST THE CLOSURE OF AHIHI-KINAU-NAR
IN PARTICULAR THE AREAS KNOWN AS THE FISH BOWL
AND AQUARIUM. AND I AM AGAINST THE EXTENSION
OF CLOSURE BEYOND THE JULY 31, 2010 DATE
ALREADY GIVEN.

I PERSONALLY ENJOY BOTH THE HIKING & SNORKLING
IN BOTH AREAS MENTIONED ABOVE, AND AM A
RESIDENT WHO USES THIS FACILITY ON A REGULAR
BASES., AND MOVED TO MAINE TO HAVE EASIER
CLOSED ACCESS TO BOTH.

THIS A VERY SPECIAL AREA, AN PRESERVATION
FOR THE BUREAU IS REQUIRED HOWEVER THE FISHBOWL AQUARIUM
PROBABLY REPRESENT MAYBE 1% OF THE TOTAL AREA
CLOSED. WHY CAN THE PUBLIC HAVE SOME ACCESS.
TO ENJOY?

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

On Sat, Apr 24, 2010 at 3:49 PM, Bob Bakmaz <_____>

wrote:

Bill Evanson

In a follow up to this past Wednesday's Public meeting and our telephone conversation yesterday on the Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve I would like to clearly define my opinion as well as offer suggestions/recommendations regarding the proposal to continue the closure of this area.

I am against any continued closure without limited public access. The DNLR, along with the Advisory group has had enough time to come up with a management plan, which is the time of closure they originally requested and were granted by the Board of Land and Natural Resources. The DNLR Advisory group's proposal to extend this indefinitely, or for another 2 years is not acceptable without some limited public access to the area.

As a resident of Makena, I used the facilities known as the Fishbowl, and the Aquarium as a hike/snorkel recreational, almost spiritual activity on a regular basis. I am completely in agreement with keeping this area preserved for all time, and I understand and agreed with the original closure to come up with a plan to better manage the area. I would support a continue closure if access to the two areas I have mentioned were reopen on a limited basis. These two areas with the path access to them, along with the snorkeling area represent less than 1% of the total reserve which has been closed.

I noticed at the last 2 meetings I attended there were many people that wanted to volunteer to help in your efforts to preserve the area, and I am sure they are partially motivated by the fact that if they did volunteer, they could continue having some access to this area. Unfortunately the DNLR and the Advisory board has not responded to them in any constructive manner.

My alternative to continued closure with no public access would be a program of limited public access. It would work like a fishing or hunting licenses/permit. All people interested in access to the areas I have mentioned would have to be certified by DNLR, as part of the license/permit process. This is where I believe that most of the public volunteers can come into play, By participating in this program they can assist the DNLR as stewards of the reserve, helping them in numerous ways. I have many ideas on this limited public access program, and before I outline the program ideas, I would like to know if there are any people on this mailing list who might share my views and are interested in limited public access.

From what I expressed at Wednesday's nights meeting, the DNLR and it's Advisory group are on a one tract mind set to close, the Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve to the Public for all time, Let's come up with an alternative, so we can still enjoy, as well as preserve this wonderful area we live next to.

Bob Bakmaz

Al Bayless

>

04/28/2010 05:53 PM

▼ To Emma.Yuen@hawaii.gov,
Randall.w.kennedy@hawaii.gov
cc
Subj Ahihi Kinau closure comments
ect

Two years ago I attended two meetings of the DLNR that were requesting public comment on their proposed closure of Ahihi Kinau. One person on the board was very adamant that the area should be closed to the public forever. It seems he has gotten his way.

I commented at one of those meetings that while I certainly agreed that the area should be protected for future generations (as was being advocated), what about this generation? Are we just going to skip over it in the interests of protecting the area "for the future"? Exactly when is this future to be?

At these meetings the public was told that the plan was to close the area for two years. During that time the trails to the Aquarium and Fishbowl would be rerouted to avoid cultural sites. The trails would be well marked to keep people from straying and getting lost. There would be educational signs and instructional signs ("don't do - -") placed along the trail. I remember this quite clearly, and I believed it at the time. It now is clear that there was no intention of ever opening the reserve again, at least not in my lifetime. We were misled.

In the several times that I snorkeled at the Aquarium and Fishbowl I saw no evidence of abuse of the area by visitors. I saw no damage to the coral. As you are probably aware, it is literally impossible to damage the lava field itself. While there may be some ancient Hawaiian house sites that may need protection, and certainly the anchialine ponds need some, the rest of the area is indestructible.

It is unconscionable to tell the public that trails would be rerouted and reopened in two years, and then not do it. Please get with the original program and allow access to the snorkel sites!

Al Bayless
Kihei

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Kathy Becklin

Phone:

Address:

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

~~The~~ Ahiki Kinau Reserve is a treasure. It needs to be protected but available. Continuous closure is not acceptable. We need to put in place programs to enable restricted access. Many of us care and want to participate, whether educating people at open areas, leading tours, monitoring resources of the area or licensing limited use; volunteer programs need to be put in place.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

Kathy Becklin

To Emma.Yuen@hawaii.gov
cc
05/02/2010 05:49 PM Subj Fwd: 'Ahihi Kina'u Reserve Closure Testimony
ect

Aloha Emma,
My note to Betsy said to contact you. Below is my testimony for the NARS
commission. Thank you.

Kathy

'Ahihi Kina'u Natural Area Reserve is a "treasure" culturally, biologically and
physically. According to Wikipedia, "treasure" is a concentration of riches, often one
which is considered lost or forgotten until being rediscovered. Many who have used the
area in the past have not recognized the fragile nature of the reserve and unknowingly
cause damage. Closing the reserve would give the treasure back to Mother Earth; making
it "lost". Instead, I want a program that recognizes the treasure so that many can continue
to "discover" it's beauty. Our keiki need to learn and we all need to respect and preserve.

I am a volunteer with the Action Ahihi program where we educate snorkelers in proper
etiquette to preserve the coral reef. Although we've been told to stop, most people from
the program are very connected and wish to stay connected to the reserve. Our goal is to
engage every person who came to Waiala Cove (Ahihi Cove) to ensure they knew that
this was a reserve area and how they can use and enjoy the area without doing harm to
the natural resources or themselves. We talked to thousands over the few years, educating
people about the reserve and our coral reefs. This program ended when DLNR told us to
stop in May 2008. Since then, I became a founding member of South Maui
Sustainability. Sustainability means a lot of things to people but for me it is very tied to
the same thing I would tell visitors at 'Ahihi — it is about protecting our environment so
that it can be used and enjoyed by future generations.

I am in favor of opening the reserve for limited usage. I do not think the area should be
re-opened as it was to everyone. A program needs to be built over time while carrying
capacities and impacts are monitored. I absolutely do not want to see this become a
Hanauma Bay. Although Hanauma Bay was once a treasure, there is little magic about
it now. We must keep the area as natural as possible with limited signs (along road/public
areas only) and natural trail markers.

To manage an area this large, it is essential to have effective volunteer programs in place.
Unfortunately, I've seen little progress on this front. Nearly two years ago, at the time of
closure, I made a statement that my concern was that 2 years would pass and little would

be done to move forward. I'm not a fortune teller. I'm an experienced project manager and I saw many things clearly lacking in the action plan. Here we are, 2 years later with more rangers on staff, a lot more signs and a few more bits of monitoring data. The Management Plan to set the long-term direction is still not complete. The action plan objectives are partially met. At the last meeting, Bill Evanson encouraged attendees to "hold us accountable" and I hope we can all do that.

Any progress toward my vision of having restricted access is dependent on setting up a volunteer program. I do recognize some of the issues that are very valid. However, I get the idea that people responsible are looking at an "All" (Haunama Bay) or nothing (close the reserve) solution. The solution lies in establishing a vision in the Management Plan and implementing it gradually to monitor the resources and analyze the true carrying capacity. Here are some of the programs that I see should be established over the next 2 years where the reserve is restricted.

- Re-establish volunteer programs at areas that are still open and have cell phone coverage.
- Define guided tours – initially conducted by rangers to train and certify volunteers/locals who want access to restricted areas.
- Establish program for "certified citizens" who have been trained to allow them access closed/restricted areas. Initially, access may just be for monitoring programs or cleanup efforts.
- Set up education program for school classes; utilize volunteers working with rangers.
- Allow trained volunteers to guide small group
- Last and maybe a few years down the line... set up program for people to register for guided land/snorkel trips. As a scuba-diver living in California, I often participated in Pt. Lobos State Reserve program. This is the type of model that I would see work best at 'Ahihi Kina'u. It restricts the number of people that could use the park at a time and requires that people register in advance.

Last but not least, we all must hold accountability for completion of the Management Plan. What happens if it is never completed? From my viewpoint it is the desire of many both in DLNR and the Advisory Board to not complete the plan to enable long-term closure and just stall any openings. I've always found that the best way to drive completion is to make the fallback conditions the opposite of what is desired. In this case, set the requirement to complete the Management Plan by 7/31/2010 or re-open the whole reserve.

--

Kathy Becklin

--

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Phone:

Email Address:

makers.

extend closure

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

4/8/10

To Whom it may concern:

I would like to voice my
Strong support for continued closure
of the currently off limit areas of
the Ahiki Kinai NAR. I believe
it is vitale to preserve & protect
this resource and the only way
to do so ~~is~~ keeping the people
out. This is the only area left.

Please continue this closure.

Thank you,

Helen Borg

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Fred Borsum

Phone:

808-264-9325

Address:

1111 Kalia Rd, Apt 208
Honolulu, HI 96813

Email Address:

fred.borsum@gmail.com

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

With the trail ~~now~~ closed, it will allow
the habitat to do well.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Tim Burt

Phone:

808-264-9325

Address:

1000 Kalia Rd, Apt 101, Honolulu, HI 96813

Email Address:

tim.burt@hawaii.gov

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

Keep it the way it is

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

Tim Burt

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:04 PM -----

Elle Cochran

mail.co To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov
m> cc
04/27/2010 08:38 PM Subj Continue Closure!
ect

Aloha Betsy,

I am a native of Maui. I see too many special places on Maui being over run and over used to the point of abuse! We are being loved to death!

My initial reaction is to keep the Ahihi Kinau area closed for two more years. I have not been updated on the status of the area since the closure two years ago. I would imagine the area has improved.

If their is a report I would love to see it.

I live at Honolua Bay and think this area could use a rest from people too!

Mahalo for coming to Maui.

--

Elle Cochran

1

www.ElectElle.com

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

Resident Name: DAVID CONKLIN Phone: _____
Address: _____

Email Address: _____

SAW AREA DEGRADED OVER YRS. Need plan
before repair

David C. Hill

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Thomas Crady

Phone:

Address:

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

The area will not be preserved by closure.

It will take education to get people to understand
how they impact the reserve. This education begins
begins with local people and then extends to visitors.

The Management Plan must begin with a volunteer
effort of caring residents.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 01:59 PM -----

Tom Croly

To <betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov>

05/03/2010 10:47 AM

cc

Subj Ahihi -Kina'u Closure Testimony for NARs commission
ect

Testimony for NARs commission hearing May 5, 2010
Concerning Ahihi-Kina'u closure

Submitted by Thomas Croly - Kihei, HI (808) 879-7044

I oppose the continued closure of the Ahihi-Kina'u natural area reserve.

I worked for about a year as a volunteer naturalist in the reserve back in 2007, and in 2008 prior to the closure. In my work, I found that all the reserve visitors that I spoke to were respectful of minimizing their impacts to the reserve, after I made them aware of the ways in which they could be impacting the reserve. Myself and the other volunteers were making a significant contribution to the preservation of the reserve through direct education of the public who were using the reserve for recreation. Our presence also made an impact on reducing poaching and compliance with the established rules of the reserve.

It was most unfortunate that the volunteer program that we worked for was suspended by the DNLR, but we were hopeful that it would be re-established under direction of the DNLR rangers.

Shortly after the suspension of the volunteer naturalist program, the closure was initiated. The basis for this closure was to allow the time for the formulation and implementation of a management plan to protect the reserve. At the time I supported such an effort. However, I was skeptical about the actual motives of the closure, since members of the Ahihi-Kina'u advisory committee had made it clear that they had no intention of ever recommending the reopening of the reserve.

As I attended the meetings since the closure concerning the management plan, my suspicions about motivation for the closure has strengthened. It is now obvious from the very little progress that has been made towards the management plan's implementation and the lack of benchmarks achieved in the past 2 years, that there really is no honest effort taking place towards either re-establishing the volunteer naturalist program nor towards ever recommending the reopening of the reserve.

This has been a breach of public trust and an abuse of the system set up to protect the public's interests.

I personally do not think that the interests of nearby land owners and business adjacent to the reserve should trump that of the general public.

And with the establishment of the advisory group, that is exactly what has occurred.

I urge the Natural area reserve board to recommend denial of the request to continue the closure of the reserve unless a timetable of milestones for the management plan are quickly established and that those milestones be implemented within reasonably established time frames. I suggest that one of the milestones be the implementation of a volunteer naturalist effort geared towards teaching the naturalists about the reserve and using these volunteers to educate the public who would desire to enter the reserve.

Thomas Croly

From: Toni Marie Davis <toni@compcast.net>

To:

Cc:

Sent: Mon, April 26, 2010 6:18:13 AM

Subject: RE: Fw: Regarding the continued closure of the Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve

Aloha All;

I agree - Management by Closure Wrong

Governments have a tendency to stagnate, losing view of the big picture, obscured by their own bureaucracy. Quick change only occurs when under siege by public outcry from some real or perceived threat. Tourism states rich in natural resources, like Hawaii, face challenges related to overuse, user conflicts and degradation. In Hawaii these challenges are magnified by the high percentage of rare endemic species and increased susceptibility to invasive species. It's a tough job, one that must balance environmental protection with users.

Tourism is an incredible economic, sustainable gift to any community. Residents should embrace it each of us are task with Ho'okipa/Hosting of these visitors. Tourism is a look but don't take, lucrative, vibrant opportunity to engage visitors in the "good" of our islands, (natural beauty, activities, aloha spirit, weather, etc.). What is happening is not right. It needs to stop. Commercial users could potentially cover the financial management cost. Having more people at a location with proper education regarding the resource is healthier for the resource than closure. Popular location are more secure locations naturally. Popular locations increase the demands on management....I totally agree with Peter Howard stop taking the lazy way out!

It is necessary to take stock, reassess and evolve! DO NOT close the park! Fix the facilities, manage the use. Allow all to use, stop segregating and being unconstitutional, the public includes visitors too. Roll up your sleeves and do capacities studies, manage smart. If the demand exceeds the facilities, upgrade the facilities. Meanwhile set times of operation that reduce user conflicts. If the natural resource is too fragile, restrict usage to only controlled concession(s) – like Hanauma Bay. This reduces impact and provides funds to restore and maintain the resource. Residents & visitors deserve it. Hawaii requires it for future generations to experience it.

Sincerely,

Toni Marie Davis/Maui Resident & Executive Director of the Activities & Attractions Association of Hawaii

Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:01 PM -----

Bill Ernst

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

04/29/2010 07:15 AM

cc

Subj RE: Ahihi-Kinai Natural Area Reserve
ect

Division of Forestry and Wildlife

Dear Betsy Gagne,

I'm a Maui resident and used to frequent Ahihi-Kinai Natural Area Reserve and have swam in both "Fishbowl" and the "Aquarium". I have gotten use to the closure of the area and am thrilled to hear that native wildlife populations have been positively affected. The improvements I have personally witnessed at La Perouse alone since commercial activities have been banned are enormous.

I believe we need true "sanctuaries" to nurture and protect native species for future generations. I'm content with access to "Dumps" and to La Perouse and am in favor of keeping most of the lava flow "off limits". At most, I would consider guided walks which included an environmental educational component.

Thank you for all your hard work grappling with this tough issue.

Aloha,
Bill Ernst
Kula, Maui

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

BARRY EWING

Phone:

Address:

1000 S. Kalia Rd.
Unit 101

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I support the closure.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

MAKENA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

April 20, 2010

Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu HI 96813

RE: NARS area, Makena Maui Hawaii


Dear Sirs/Madams,

On behalf of the Makena Homeowner's Association, I would like to put forth that it is unanimous among our members that the status of the NARS should not be changed. The closure of this area has made an incredible difference in preserving this natural, wild and unique place. We feel we are patrons of this area and can see the benefits the last two years have made.

We have also noticed that there has been little dissatisfaction voiced, to our knowledge, from visitors and residents alike since the closure. Everyone seems to acknowledge that it is a pristine environment and should be preserved as such.

It is our strong belief and heartfelt request that the NARS area continue it's current status.

Mahalo for your kind consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hugh J. Farrington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and "J".

Hugh J Farrington
President, Makena Homeowner's Association

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 01:57 PM -----

LFreidenburg

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

m>

cc

05/03/2010 08:26 PM

Subj Ahihi-Kiha'u reserve
ect

Dear Ms. Gagne:

I have not been able to attend hearings and was actually delighted to hear the proposal for a continued closure of the area. The area suffered for a long time. I believe another couple of years would help heal the area as well as give the parties working on a management plan more time to create one that will keep people from "loving" the place to death while allowing some enjoyment of the area. As I little girl (in the 1970's) we used to go out there. There were archaeological sites everywhere. I have read since that visitors aren't as respectful as we were and I would hate to think of those sites trashed.

Linda Freidenburg

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name: MARU GROODE Phone: ---
Address: ---
Email Address: C

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I am very concerned that by closing so much of
Ahihi Kinau, the part that is open is being damaged
People routinely can be seen walking on rocks and
coral in the shallow bay. Kanahana Cove needs a
clear, simple sign that says "Please do not
walk or stand on the rocks and coral. When you
leave the platform, swim or float!"

Roi (Peachick grouper) are a serious threat to
the fish in the Ahihi Kinau reserve. If we don't
allow fishermen to fish, we shouldn't let the Roi
destroy the reef fish population either. I counted
twenty Roi in a 3.5 minute swim recently and
many of them were very large.

We must take care of the whole area, not just
the closed part. →

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Please
turn
over →

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

To Matt Ramsey
Ahihi-Kinau Ranger
State of Hawaii DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Room 101
Wailuku, Hi. 96793

Dear Mr. Ramsey,

I attended last night a public meeting to discuss keeping most of the Ahihi-Kinau Reserve closed for two more years, or until a management plan could be enacted.

Mr. Evanson spoke about using the model of Haleakala and limiting the use to the number of parking places. I suggest you also consider allowing some public access to the fishbowl and the aquarium areas of the closed section, perhaps in a lottery format, the way Haleakala decides who gets to stay in the cabins.

I would like to see the area protected from too much public use, but not closed to all but sea birds and nesting turtles. This is one of the gems of Hawaii. It's a place residents and visitors alike enjoy, as it's more undeveloped than other parts of Maui. We have the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef System Reserve protected from human impact. We need to allow human use of this area with education and respect for the unique place that it is.

I am concerned that we need better signage for the Kanehena Cove. I would like to see a plain sign that says, "Please don't walk or stand on the rocks & coral. Float or swim in this shallow bay."

Also of concern to me is the growing Roi, or Peacock Grouper, population in the reserve. I strongly feel that if we have Roi Roundups to save reef fish from this voracious introduced species on other parts of Maui, we need it here, too. I see more and more Roi in the reserve from very small fish to very large ones. I doubt if you would need funding to sponsor a day or two of local fishermen helping out as volunteers, to take some of the roi off this reef.

I would also advise against charging a fee to enter the area, or park. Look elsewhere to fund the management plan.

Please submit my remarks at the meeting on May 5th.

Aloha,

Mary Groode



----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:06 PM -----

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov
04/25/2010 06:02 PM cc
Subj Ahihi Reserve
ect

When I planned my retirement over the last 20 years, I factored in my love for the Ahihi Reserve area. In 1997 I spent my hard earned money on a condo in S. Kihei so that I could access this area easily. With dismay, I have watched the area change. It was not the few fit and educated hikers that walked across the lava to the Aquarium and Fish Bowl on occasion. It was the commercial kayak companies, dive companies, etc. that invaded the area by easier from boats who failed to educate their customers. I remember the joy of spending a quiet morning on the coast with others. As the numbers increased the people who used the area seemed thankful for this glorious area and respected it. When the boats arrived, they damaged the coral and frightened the fish. They left their garbage which attracted rats and mice.

When I read in the Maui News today that the DLNR is actually considering permitting commercial companies to use the area, I nearly fell off my chair!! If we are taught to believe in "love the aina", I don't believe that THIS is what is meant by this slogan.

Please, please, please return the area to the conscientious ones who gently educated the snorkelers. Yes, we may need patrolling of the area by rangers and other support services, but not the hoards who are lead by those trying to make money off of a pristine area and disregard the fragility of it.

With respect and aloha,
Rebecca Hanson

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:00 PM -----

Rebecca Hanson

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

05/02/2010 07:22 PM

cc

Subj Makenna Reserve/Maui
ect

Aloha, Betsy. Thanks for your hard work on gathering opinions on re-opening the reserve. My husband and I are strongly FOR having access to this wonderful area. I don't think it is ready for business activity, tho. We have been watching the area since 1982 and the condition of the area started declining when the kayak companies came in. Most people haven't kayaked much and we watched them run the kayaks into the reefs. Even the operators of guided kayak tours had a big impact on the area when they started taking dozens of boats a day into the "secret coves". We watched each boat being dragged up on the sand, people getting out of the boats, crushing the coral. Please give the hikers and snorkelers better access.

Thanks,
Becky and Jim Palmateer

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

Phone: _____

makers.

Keep road closed! extend closure!

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:04 PM -----

04/28/2010 03:10 AM

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

cc

Subj Open the closed area
ect

I have been waiting two years to again enjoy the snorkeling at the fish bowl. The promise of a two year closure should be kept. The shore in Maui has been open to all. To keep this area for only a select few is just not right or fair. Keep the promise.

Harry Hecht

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Penny M. Hyun

Phone:

Address:

7120

Email Address:

hyunm101@gmail.com

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I feel that more consideration and better plan should be implemented before opening the trail. The Rangers should be considered and have supported because they're basically respon. ble, and have burdened making everything work. If you are going to reopen the trail again, take time to realistic and do right!

Penny M. Hyun

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

From: Peter Howard [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 5:48 PM
To: Bob Bakmaz
Cc:

Subject: Re: Fw: Regarding the continued closure of the Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve

I too am a long time resident of Makena and totally opposed to the continued closure of the Ahihi Kinau area. For many years my children and our friends were responsible users of the area. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the recent Public Meetings. I think the DLNR is being completely unimaginative and come up with the lazy solution which is to CLOSE It. Then why not just close everything fire the DLNR and we can all just stay home a solution typical of bureaucrats the Post Office and Government. Just give less service expect the same pay and to hell with the general public who are believe it or not are the actual OWNERS. Get creative, designate parking areas, put some potties in, charge like Haleakala and get on with the real job of providing the owners, US with a facility we can use again. Revive common sense get creative, use resources (like the OWNERS) open it up now, and stop the laziness.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Tim Hurd

Phone:

808-264-9325

Address:

1000 Kalia Rd.
Apartment 101

Email Address:

thurd@hawaii.net

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I AGREE THAT THE PROPOSED EXTENSIONS FOR AHIHI-KINAU
NAR SHOULD BE PASSED 10/28/10 4/28/10

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHIUS on 05/04/2010 02:06 PM -----

"Rick Long"

m>

04/25/2010 05:19 PM

To <betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov>

cc "Bill Evanson" <william.d.evanson@hawaii.gov>

Subj `Ahihi-Kina`u NARS comments
ect

Aloha,

I attended the public information meeting on the `Ahihi-Kina`u NARS closure/extension in Kihei, on April 21st. Since the closure began, I have visited the NARS about once a week as a Citizen Science volunteer with the Hawai`i Division of Aquatic Resources, and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. I am also a trained volunteer with Eyes of the Reef project, and I constantly monitor for coral disease and other threats to the coral reef ecosystem, including locations within the NARS.

First, there is a public misunderstanding of public recreation areas and wilderness protection areas. Neither the State of Hawaii agencies, nor the conservation oriented NGOs have an effective message. We need 10% of the state's coastal areas made into Marine Protected Areas. I have never felt limited in my choices for ocean recreation on the island of Maui, so I could accept having limited access to the NARS.

Second, I support restricting public access to sensitive natural resources. I agree with the distinctions made during the public information meeting that some areas, especially the Anchialine Ponds, cannot tolerate regular human impact. Other areas used for ocean recreation can tolerate some degree of human impact. But, the current levels of ocean recreation usage at the two public locations continue to exceed what is needed to restore and sustain the health of the marine resources.

I support a system of entrance fees to the NARS for resident and non-resident users. I support closing the NARS when a specific volume of traffic has entered the park. These have been effective tools at Hanuama Bay and in the National Park Service. The `Ahihi-Kina`u NARS is a very high quality natural resource and deserves to be compared to similar high quality natural resources.

Third, I have observed how effectively the Rangers work with the public and DOCARE. The continuation of sunrise to sunset Ranger education and enforcement is a critical component to any management plan. I have also seen effective and ineffective use of volunteers in the NARS prior to the current two year closure plan. As a volunteer for several government and non-governmental agencies, I see a need for a corps of semi-professional naturalists who clearly understand their role as educators. A good volunteer program would complement the Ranger program. Financial resources must be found to continue appropriate staffing levels for the Ranger program.

Mahalo for this opportunity to comment on the `Ahihi-Kina`u NARS closure/extension plan.

Rick Long
Kihei

References:

Eyes of the Reef

<http://www.reefcheckhawaii.org/eyesofthereef.htm>

Hawai`i Division of Aquatic Resources

<http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar/index.html>

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

<http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/>

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:05 PM -----

m
04/25/2010 07:39 PM
To "betsy.h.gagne" <betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov>
cc
Subj Ahihi-Kinau
ect

Betsy Gagne

Division of Forestry and Wildlife

betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

4/25/2010

Ms. Gagne:

We live in Kihei and have been snorkeling in Ahihi-Kinau for 25 years. We write to give our support to making the moratorium on use in the reserve **permanent**.

In the old days, it was a trick to find the trail across the lava. You needed to know the pole number, and then find the silver paint on the water pipe. For a while it was green paint. And then, the trail was faint. You felt like an Indian scout, seeing the disturbed surfaces from the corners of your eyes. But when you got to the cove, what did you find? Sandwich wrappers, soiled toilet paper, dirty diapers, plastic bottles, all kinds of trash. Completely disgraceful. And then the kayak concessionaires. They are much more careful than some, because they know their use is conditional and under fire. But they thoroughly spoil the experience for everyone else at the beach.

It is unimaginable that the current moratorium could be lifted before the completion of a thoughtful, thorough general plan for the area. However, based on our experience, that plan should permanently prohibit uses of the closed areas.

Use by snorkelers at the cove and at the Dumps should continue to be permitted. The coral development in Ahihi-Kinau is the best in south Maui. But access to the lava should be **banned permanently**, and **any** use of the reserve by concessionaires should be banned or severely restricted. That includes, but isn't restricted to, kayaks (of course), commercial scuba operations, commercial snorkeling tours, and hiking tours (of course).

Tom and Susan Luten

(Address and/or phone number on request)

--- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:03 PM -----

Meleana Mac <maui-

To <betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov>

04/28/2010 12:44 PM

cc

Subj Ahihi Closure
ect

I agree with Bob Bakmaz for limited access to the fish bowl and aquarium. The rest of the area can be closed but these 2 sites should be open for limited access. I have waited 2 years and have been looking forward to the day I can return to snorkel these much loved sites. Please DO NOT restrict access to these 2 sites.

Mahalo,
Meleana

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

JOSEPH MALDONADO

Phone:

Address:

4401 KUA RD
F.

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I SUPPORT THE CLOSURE!

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:04 PM -----

nancy maslen

m>

04/27/2010 05:18 PM

To: betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov
cc
Subject: Ahihi Kinau
ect

Please keep this beautiful area closed so that it can heal from all the over-use! Please help keep Maui's beach pristine.
Aloha, Nancy Maslen

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Phone:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

Please see attached.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

TO: NARSC & DLNR

4-21-10

RE: Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve

For the past 9 years I have been swimming in the Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve in the small bay just before the parking lot area in the Reserve. During these years I have witnessed a distressing decline in all the coral species and variety of fish species within this bay.

The attempt to protect this area with various signs has proven to be ineffective. Every day, at whatever time I am in the bay, I have witnessed the disregard and breaking of every rule listed. Most visitors using this bay have told me that they have not even seen the signs, many claiming ignorance that this is a protected area within a Reserve, and others say they deliberately ignore the signs since they do not want to be restricted in their recreation. The most common infraction is the standing for periods of time and walking on all of the coral areas in the bay.

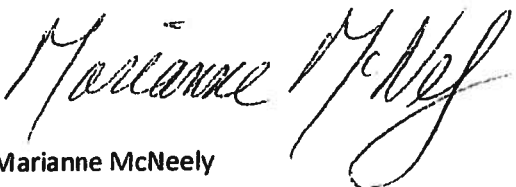
This continuing destruction of the environment of habitat and species in this bay cannot continue without permanent damage and loss of the entire environment and ecosystem. The purpose of this Reserve is to preserve these habitats for future generations.

With the observed decline of this environment during these past years, and with the continuing decline during these past 2 years of restrictions within the Reserve, and the inability to have Ranger presence frequently and consistently at this bay, I strongly request that we remember the purpose of this Reserve: to enable these habitats to survive intact for future generations, and for replenishment of damaged habitats throughout our island.

I strongly request the following be adopted policy for this small bay:

- 1.- Daily Volunteer presence, trained and organized as a team with guidelines for communicating the expectations of visitors in the bay and education of reasons for these policies.
- 2.- Closure of the bay. The need for retaining some recreation within the Preserve would be met by the historical walking tour from the parking lot and observation points for viewing the various ecosystems within the preserve without entering within these ecosystems.

Mahalo and thank you for your efforts to effectively manage and preserve the Ahihi-Kinau Reserve.


Marianne McNeely

I Support

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

CHARLES S. MEDER

1118 27-1

P. 10 TL 11. 12. 13.

Chlorophyll

Blank lined paper.

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:04 PM -----

04/28/2010 07:15 AM

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

cc

Subj ahihi
ect

hi joani morris here , i would like to see ahihi kinau opened in a restricted manner, maybe like a hiker sign in with all in group watching a video like we do in haleakala now ,thanks and keep up the good work aloha joani morris lifeguard and vip vol at HNP

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name: Maria Musae Phone: 808 255 1111
Address: 87
1111
Email Address: 1111

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

No Road !!!
Extend Closure 1

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:01 PM -----

Robin Newbold

>

04/29/2010 11:33 AM

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

cc flob2@aol.com, Dale Bonar <daleb@hawaii.rr.com>

Subj Proposal to extend closure at Ahihi-Kinau
ect

I, too, miss the hike and snorkel to fish bowl and aquarium, but "the fish come first". This decision must be based on what is in the best interest of the reefs and its inhabitants - not on what humans would like to do. Closing certain areas allows them to recover and that recovery helps replenish areas that are depleted.

I haven't reviewed the information available to the Advisory Board but trust that they made a wise decision and would therefore support their recommendation to close for another 2 years.

Robin Newbold
Kihei, HI

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I support!

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:05 PM -----

Nancy Powers-Grant

com>

04/25/2010 09:08 PM

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

cc

Subj ahihi-kinau reserve
ect

keep the closure of the "reserve" there are so many beaches that are available to people to snorkeling. i too, was a former makena resident many years ago and would gladly see this area remain a sanctuary.

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:08 PM -----

"robert raimo"

om>

04/26/2010 08:15 AM

To <betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov>

cc

Subj COMMENT ON THE RESEVE CLOSURE
ect

I am a full time resident of Kihei and I feel the reserve is mismanaged and with some minimal changes the reserve could be open to limited access. I offer the following suggestions.

1. Paint blazes on the trail on the lava to the two most popular diving spots. Place signs at the beginning of the trail warning people to stay on the trail and stay off the coral.
2. Do not allow commercial use of the site.
3. Staff the area with full time rangers to walk the trail to insure compliance. Two people walking it twice a day would do it.

If the trail is clearly marked I would bet that most of the problems will be gone. No one wants to wander around the lava, most people just lose their way, and this will keep the impacts to a restricted area.

I used to use the area often, now I swim in at Dumps and would like to see it reopened. Also the closure also has a negative effect on tourism, several people have told me how disappointed they were they could not do that hike. And I think the DLNR staff is harassing people down there now. All the staff as to do is explain things to folks, like how not to chase dolphins, and people would respond positively, the heavy attitude is definitely a negative for folks.

Robert Raimo

~
.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIM-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Casteria

Resident Name:

Dr. Phyllis Robinson and Ethan Fierro Phone: _____

Address:

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

My husband and I live in Wailea (Maui Meadows) and the Pihahi-Kinau area is part of our lives (a huge part) - We snorkel-swim there 5 times ~~week~~ week using the "dumps" area to put in or La Perouse. We have made friends with the rangers especially Joe, Danielle and Kepa and have learned of the challenges of monitoring human behavior that is damaging to the fragile eco-system we are trying to preserve. Closing the areas to the "fishbowl" and "aquarium" has been one way to allow these fragile places to rejuvenate. If we extend the area restrictions and put in placed guided hikes that people pay a fee for, perhaps we can continue to protect the area, give the DNR much needed funding and allow visitors the pleasure to view the wild beauty we have all grown to appreciate and love.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.



Jill Schatz

05/03/2010 08:17 AM

To william.d.evanson@hawaii.gov

cc

bcc

Subject Proposal to Extnd Area Restrictions at Ahihi-Kinau NAR

Subject: Proposal to Extnd Area Restrictions at Ahihi-Kinau NAR

Resident Name: Jill Schatz

Phone.

Address:

What wonderful news! There is rehabilitation occurring in the NAR. It can be seen in many ways. Regulations and their enforcement have worked. These past two years, the NAR has been protected.

As Pat Burge so succinctly stated, 'Resources first, people second.' That is that. That is the mission. Stay true to that course and the health and beauty of the area will be insured for future generations. It is a legacy that sends an important message to residents and visitors alike.

Resources first. Extend area restrictions at Ahihi-Kinau NAR. Allow the completion of the plan that will build in controlled, responsible usage.

These past two years, the rangers have coached, instructed, and enforced. As a result, people have used the area more respectfully! This we can personally attest to and give thanks for.



Jill Schatz

05/03/2010 08:22 AM

To william.d.evanson@hawaii.gov

cc

bcc

Subject Fwd: Proposal to Extend Area Restrictions at Ahihi-Kinau NAR

Subject: Proposal to Extend Area Restrictions at Ahihi-Kinau NAR

Resident Name: Doug Schatz

Phone:

Address:

email address

Comments:

Healthy Use

Reduced Fire Hazard

Preservation of Artifacts

No loud parties with bonfires all night long

many fewer screeching tire nights with bottles, trash, toilet paper, thrown everywhere

Many fewer trespasses

Much more local support for the Rangers

Stronger feeling of personal safety

More sense of common purpose between homeowners and Rangers and law enforcement

Very quick response to emergency situations

There has been a huge difference these past 2 years in people's responsible usage of the area. Great, great job!

May 1, 2010

To: Bill Evanson, DLNR

Re: 'Ahihi-Kina'u Natural Area Reserve (AKNAR)

As a resident of Maui, and someone who has enjoyed the natural wonders of the 'Ahihi-Kina'u Natural Area Reserve (AKNAR), I feel compelled to share some thoughts about the future plans for the Reserve.

In April, I attended a meeting of the AKNAR Advisory Group, and was struck by the passion of the people speaking to these issues. I was unable to attend a later public meeting, but read with interest the accounts in the paper.

I believe that the NAR System has some serious and unique challenges with AKNAR, leading to questions that I think will need to be answered in order for any chance of success in continuing to protect the Reserve.

Several of the challenges are clear to everyone:

1. 'Ahihi-Kinau is accessible – its blessing and its curse. From what I understand about the other NARs in the state, this is the only one you can drive up to, park in, or drive through. It is easy to get to from the ocean side; in fact, from the water, it is not even clear where the boundaries are.
2. From what I understand in speaking with a number of people, treating the Reserve as if it were a park (allowing hiking, swimming, climbing on the rocks) was the case from the inception of the Reserve (197x?) until July 2008. I hear a strong sense of entitlement (from people I speak with) to resume using the Reserve in that fashion, "once this two-year experiment is over." How many years did it take to finally eliminate the commercial entities using the Reserve as a destination?
3. "It's those wacky environmentalists again!" I don't perceive any strong public awareness about what makes the Reserve so special; what it is that NAR is trying to protect. In fact I detect a perception that is just the opposite: (a) most of the Reserve is lava, and even I struggle with questions about what is being protected there; and (b) the places most people seem to want to go are in the ocean – and "everyone knows" that all ocean front in Hawaii is open to the public.
4. People live in it! Okay, I don't know exactly where the boundaries are, but it really looks like there are a couple of houses inside the Reserve – so how do you expect everyone else not to be able to be in there????

There are other challenges in protecting the Reserve, many of which come down to funding, and the lack of a long-term sustainable revenue stream to provide the level of resources necessary to fulfill the mission.

Anyway, here are some thoughts about the Reserve, the mission, and the strategy. Please read this in the spirit of helping to find solutions; I'm not attacking anyone or any idea.

1. Listen to the public. I got an uneasy feeling at the Advisory Group meeting that the members felt they had all the answers, and the public was wasting their time. Reality is that NARs are public lands, but with a different set of rules. Oddly enough, I find that in a democracy, "the people" believe they have a say in what happens on public lands, and with public money.

2. Drop the expression “protect it for future generations.” Protect it *from* what, for *which* generation? My kids? My grandkids? The phrase implies that at some point in the future, it will be “safe” again to allow public access, while it seems that the value of NARs is primarily in keeping most of the public out.
3. Focus on the mission. Reading the statutes about NARs, I was impressed with the ideas of protecting endangered native species, and eliminating non-native species. What specifically will the Management Plan for the Reserve focus on in carrying out that mission? And, what is it in AKNAR that will go the furthest in accomplishing that? For example, I heard from the Park Ranger making the presentation at the Advisory Group meeting that the anchialine ponds were a critical habitat. There have to be ways to protect those ponds, for instance, without having to close everyone out of the rest of the Preserve.
4. Find the “easy wins” that everyone can agree on. I recognize the value and positive impact of fencing around the NARs in the mountains; to me, fencing the perimeter of the Reserve in order to eventually eliminate the goats, pigs, and deer, is a no-brainer. So would be adding radio repeaters and possibly a cell phone tower to improve emergency communications.
5. Consider a number of alternatives, and include them in the Management Plan. I’ve seen too many public reports get torn to pieces in public hearings when people asked, “have you considered this?”, and the answer was, “yes, but we didn’t think it was important so we didn’t include it.” Believe me, it’s important to the people asking the questions.
6. Ask yourselves all the hard questions ahead of time, and have reasonable answers. NOT talking points, real answers. (If anyone needs help thinking up “hard questions”, I’d be happy to generate a list.)
7. Make sure the recommendations meet the mission and are supported by the data. I heard a terrific presentation on the study results (to date) at the Advisory Group meeting, but I didn’t hear anything that convinced me that maintaining the current status quo was the best solution – as opposed to narrowing the range of the closure to accomplish specific goals.
8. Be willing to give ground strategically. In my former life, we occasionally used the expression, “is this the hill you want to die on?” I have to believe there are some areas where the NAR management could find some middle ground in order to gain wider public support – which in my experience is important to those elected officials making the tough decisions.
9. Plan incrementally. In my experience, elected officials really don’t like “in perpetuity” or “forever”, not to mention that language like that sometimes results in court findings of unconstitutional vagueness. I believe it would be better to have a long range vision, with short, achievable milestones – within 5 years, complete this; within 10 years, complete that. In some cases, the use of a “sunset clause” requiring a revisiting of the necessity every 4 or 5 years can be one of the keys in getting something passed.

10. Emulate models that are working elsewhere in the world. I've heard of park systems in other countries that allow limited access to sensitive areas; tightly controlled, but that does not simply close off access to everyone forever. Even our National Park system has varying levels of managing public access, including use of Wilderness Areas. Heck, you can hike into and camp in Haleakala.
11. Find a solution for the road; one that will work with any variety of Management Plan options.
12. Forget about the damn "blue book." Protecting resources can't be accomplished through a shroud of secrecy, and we do have Freedom of the Press in this country. The Management Plan needs to work no matter how many people know about the Reserve, and I sense an awful lot of energy being expended on something you can't control. Take care of the Reserve, and that will solve any problems people have with any guide books.

Fundamentally, I believe the biggest challenge for the future of the Reserve is developing a sustainable revenue stream. The two cheapest solutions are (a) surrender, drop the NAR status, and walk away; and (b) put a ten-foot wall around the whole place and throw away the key. (Hopefully, neither of those is being considered.) Anything in between is going to cost money, and I would bet the biggest cost will be the staffing to carry out any management plan. Without an appropriate level of resources, NO Management Plan will succeed. Where is the money going to come from? Taxes? Concessions? Fees and charges? Fines? Bake sales? I suspect that the special nature of 'Ahihi-Kina'u requires a much higher staffing level than other NARs; specifically it's (a) the accessibility, which leads to (b) lots of visitors. Even severe restrictions on access in a final Plan will require high staffing levels for enforcement.

In closing, I want to thank all the people working so diligently to protect the Reserve and come up with a Plan. 'Ahihi-Kina'u is truly a special place, and deserves an appropriate level of protection. I look forward to the Draft of the Management Plan, and any opportunity to continue this dialogue. Please feel free to email or call if you have any questions.

David Schoonover
Kihei, Hawaii
Cell phone (private): _____
Email: _____

Cc: Matt Ramsey
Dale Bonar

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHIUS on 05/04/2010 02:07 PM -----

**Todd & Elysia
Semmerling**

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov, iloomis@mauinews.com

om>

cc

04/25/2010 11:48 AM

Subj Closing of Ahihi---
ect

Betsy---

I understand the importance of protecting Hawaii's natural areas and appreciate the State's efforts.... My wife and I love hiking, camping, snorkeling, and observing the beauty that this amazing place has to offer.

The article said-- " Fish, turtles, and birds have returned to Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve" We used to go hike, swim, and camp there... There were always "fish, turtles, and birds"..... We did see the place get abused by a few unruly type of visitors..... BUT many others like us enjoyed the area, left no trace, and cleaned up other garbage along the way. It was our favorite place to wake up in the morning, but has been off limits for years.. The few ruin it for the many.

I agree-- regulation is needed; but total closure? If we continue that way.... we should close all National Parks / reserve areas because we do make an impact on the Earth. Extreme example, but the point is to educate others how to live sustainably and with the least impact on the planet.... Educating others will protect these areas and the rest of Maui more than total closure will.

What's wrong with looking at what works in other states... A State/county park system where locals can buy a yearly sticker for a fee(\$25-50) to use the area. Maybe more? We would pay! Tourists/visitors pay a daily fee. It comes to \$. So charge! Use the funds for educational purposes... and on-site naturalist, maybe a little bathroom building?

Thanks for you time, and for helping others enjoy / protect our beautiful island.

Todd Semmerling

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:03 PM -----

"Mike Sweeney"

com>

04/28/2010 01:13 PM

To <betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov>
cc
Subj Ahihi-Kinau meeting
ect

Hi Betsy-

My wife and I attended the public informational meeting last week (4/21 at Lokelani middle school in Kihei, Maui) on the proposal to extend Ahihi-Kinau restrictions.

I'd like to see the area re-opened to the public. It seems to me the single biggest thing needed to limit the human impact is marking the hiking trails. When we use to hike out there a couple years ago, we'd see people wandering all over the place because none of the trails were marked.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

-Mike

Mike Sweeney

.22

Kihei, HI 96753

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

ANE TAKAHARA

Phone:

Address:

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I/we want you to hold a "ROI ROUNDUP"

at Ahiki Kinau (SP) as you have done in other areas.
There are far too many large ROI than & less & less small fish.

I am in support of ~~the~~ limiting activity & human use in
the La Perouse area & continuing the closure for another 2 yrs.

Thank you

ane tak

Get a Volunteer organization for the parts that are
open NOW! implement the volunteers in stages as commercial
can become available

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

Ane Takaha



04/24/2010 09:04 PM

To: matt.ramsey@hawaii.gov

cc

Subj: Ahihi Kinau
ect

Aloha Matt

I was at the meeting in Kihei with my friends the other evening. I am writing this for your meeting in May for the next steps in the planning for the Reserve.

I believe there needs to be some kind of management in the area. When I first went there I was taken on a hike out to a sacred place where we prayed and swam in a pristine pool with amazing fish. We were the only ones there. The next time I went there (15 years later) it was over-run with tourists, lawn chairs, radios, yelling kids - a circus. I do not believe that this is the right use of these precious resources. There needs to be access but controlled access. Perhaps as they have done on the volcano, a lottery? Or by reservation? Something.

The rest of the reserve needs attention. The bay entrance, the cove entrance. They are over-run with the people who can't go anywhere else I swim there 3-4 times a week. I do not want you to close this access but there needs to be some way to manage the tourists. They are walking all over the coral. The signs at the cove are not in the right place and have too many words. There needs to be some way to tell the tourists how to use the resources. Volunteers at the site to talk to them seem to be the best idea. I tell them every time I swim. Some care and pay attention. Others ignore me. An official representative would be great. An official sign in the right place with a clear message - "do not walk on the rocks" would be wonderful. As far as needing to wait until the radio situation is cleared up for volunteers....as we said, "What about starting with the areas where cell phone reception does work?" There are many of us ready to help.

AND the Roi in the bay and cove!!! There are so many really large Roi there. I really wish you would do a Roi Round up like the ones done on other parts of the island. You said it has not been proven that they are really a problem BUT..... if that is the case why have all the other places gone ahead and held the events? I know you personally have similar feelings.

There seems to be a lot of stalling. I don't understand the source of it. Politics? Fear of making a mistake?

Anyway, Hopefully things will move forward to take care of this wonderful resource before all the money dries up!

Thanks for all your work,

Ane Takaha

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name: MARC TAKAHARA Phone: ✓
Address: _____

Email Address: L. TAKAHARA@HAWAII.GOV

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

Please re-up the moratorium! The human impact ^{upon} the reserve before this period was tremendous and adverse. In fact, I didn't see the area in question as a "reserve", different in use than any other shoreline zone. If anything, the area was more highly populated and therefore more affected - trash, eroded trails, undesignated trailway, damaged fauna, human feces and used toilet paper, feminine products, etc. In the ocean human impact evidenced as damaged and broken coral.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name:

Mel Tarase

Phone:

712-555-1234

Address:

1-1111-1111

Email Address:

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

Keep close!!

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evanson@hawaii.gov.

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AREA RESTRICTIONS AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21, 2010, Lokelani Intermediate School, Cafeteria

Resident Name: SUSAN H. THOMSON

Phone: 271-2070

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Please write any comments you wish to share on the proposed action below. Comments received will help to ensure that your interests and concerns are communicated to decision makers.

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING HAPPEN
AT AHIHI-KINAU NAR:

* 1 PRIORITY TO GET A REAP REPEATER ESTABLISHED
TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATION SO A VOLUNTEER
PROGRAM CAN BE PUT IN PLACE (FOR SAFETY)

* 2 TO INCLUDE IN THE PLAN SOME TYPE OF LIMITED
PUBLIC ACCESS TO KALAELOA MOKUHA.

* 3 THE MANAGEMENT PLAN SHOULD HAVE A
COMPLETION DATE + NOT BE OPEN ENDED,
OR WHEN IT'S COMPLETED THEN THE

AREA IS RE-OPENED. THERE IS NO MOTIVATION TO
COMPLETE THE PLAN IF THE →

* 4 THERE SHOULD BE MORE NOTICE TO THE
PUBLIC FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING - AT LEAST
48 TO 72 HOURS IN THE PAPER (MAUI NEWS)

SO THERE CAN BE BETTER PUBLIC ATTENDANCE
+ PARTICIPATION.

Please submit your comments by the end of the meeting, or, if you wish you may mail your comments attention to:

Bill Evanson
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High St., Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

THANK YOU!
I know you all work
really hard + I
support all you do!
Susan

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill at (808) 264-9325, or by email at william.d.evansons@hawaii.gov.

3 ADVISORY GROUP DOESN'T WANT TO AREA OPEN,
IF THEY REALLY WANT TO CLOSE IT PERMANENTLY.



DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR/DLNR
/StateHiUS

04/28/2010 08:03 AM

To Randall W Kennedy/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, William
D Evanson/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Matt Ramsey
cc John S Cumming/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS

bcc

Subject Fw: Ahihi-Kina'u

----- Forwarded by DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR/DLNR/StateHiUS on 04/28/2010 08:02 AM -----



Ann Turner

Sent by

04/28/2010 07:19 AM

To dlnr@hawaii.gov

cc

Subject Ahihi-Kina'u

I think that the reserve should extend the closure of the Fishbowl and the Aquarium for another two years. I also fell that the education booth for visitors to Ahihi-Kina'u should be resumed.

Those volunteers in the blue shirts were very helpful and polite. I'm glad they were there to let me know the rules of the reef so that I didn't do any harm to the reef and sea animals.

Thank you.

----- Forwarded by Betsy H Gagne/DLNR/StateHiUS on 05/04/2010 02:02 PM -----

Paul Twelker

com>

04/28/2010 08:25 PM

To betsy.h.gagne@hawaii.gov

cc

Subj Ahihi-Kinai Natural Area Reserve
ect

As a frequent visitor to the area commonly referred to as "The Aquarium" at Ahihi-Kinai Natural Area Reserve, I can attest to its degradation through the last sixteen years. The closure of the area to commercial kayak tours helped considerably. Then, the publicity provided by *Maui Revealed* and other guide books made previous problems seem insignificant in comparison. I saw people in flimsy thong sandals and guide books in hand get hopelessly lost (and hurt) on the lava flow. If they made it to the lagoon, they slathered sun-tan oil over their bodies just prior to entering the water, oblivious to the harm they were inflicting on the environment. They walked along the fragile edges of the anchialine ponds. They left trash stuffed between rocks. But I also saw people who appreciated the area as I did, and who left with a deeper respect of the harmony, the unbelievable serenity, and the peacefulness that is characteristic of this very special area.

Last summer, I asked a DLNR ranger how their agency was progressing in developing their long-term management plan to protect the La Perouse area. She responded, "What plan?" I reminded her that the newspaper articles published just prior to the closure referred to the DLNR's charge to develop a protection plan. She responded by saying that there was no plan being developed, and that they simply wished to let the area renew itself. Three weeks later, this same ranger told a friend of mine that DLNR had no intention of reopening the area so that "it could be preserved for future generations". Although this ranger was not an official spokesperson for DLNR, I believe that what she said speaks volumes about DLNR's agenda and the way it functions.

The recent newspaper article published in the Maui Times (April 25, 2010) also raises serious questions regarding DLNR's intentions as well as its ability to function to preserve, maintain, and where desirable, improve and restore shoreline open space and scenic resources. There is absolutely no reason to give this bureaucracy one more day to complete its work. Obviously, it has other priorities, an inadequate budget, and most certainly other intentions in regard to the La Perouse area that conflict directly with ocean access by Hawaii residents, which is a fundamental right under HRS 115.

The very idea that this special place could be preserved for future generations by closing the area to the present generation is against all logic. What we need from the DLNR at this point are not excuses as to why they failed in their mission. For what ever reasons, they failed the people of Hawaii, just as they failed them in their dumping of concrete Z-modules in the Keawakapu Artificial Reef Project. Yes, I believe that this comparison is appropriate as both projects show the same disdain of good planning practices and the same type of incompetence.

The newspaper article stated that DLNR was considering allowing guided hikes, a permit system, or a commercial concession. Talk of these alternatives is useless unless we know the mission and objectives of this reserve. What is the vision for Ahihi-Kinai Natural Area Reserve that is guiding this planning effort? There are literally hundreds of nature reserves that allow for both habitat protection and human useage. This is not an either-or question! For DLNR personnel to tell the public that they never wanted the area reopened tells me they fail to comprehend the place and role of human beings in the environment. Reserves can be wonderful opportunities for education, for research, and for re-creation. Development within the reserve certainly needs to be limited to that needed to support scientific research, education and management of the habitat. Access needs to be carefully controlled and directed, with educational signage clearly visible. We have known for years that sun tan oil harms aquatic life, but where was the DLNR? Why weren't signs installed both at the trailheads and at the lagoon? Through the years, the La Perouse area has been neglected and abused beyond belief. And incidentally, the damage done can not be blamed on tourists alone. It was the locals with their high-center four-wheel drive trucks, not the hikers, who tore up the King's Highway and laid waste to the archeological sites. Where was the DLNR when all this was going on?

In closing, I would like to make the following short-term suggestions:

- 1) reopen the area as scheduled
- 2) install a self-service registry system one-eighth mile in from the road (at the end of the sandy trail and beginning of the lava) that requires visitors to read and sign a form that outlines the rules of use of the area, and requires full identification of all hikers
- 3) provide educational signs at the trailhead and along the trail
- 4) sign the anchialine ponds off limits, with barrier railings along the trail
- 5) at the half-way point to the Aquarium, just beyond the anchialine ponds, where the trail disappears, post signs that discourage hiking beyond that point and encourage snorkeling in the nearby coves of La Perouse Bay
- 6) at The Aquarium lagoon, direct hikers with signs and barriers to one snorkeling entry point (the rubble beach)
- 7) monitor the number of people using the area for a minimum of twelve months, using the data to assess the need for daily quotas and implementation of an internet-based reservation system

Aloha

Paul Twelker

Kihei, HI 96753